Experimental Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

2 June 2003

National Ocean Service/NCCOS and CSC

NESDIS/CoastWatch and NDBC

Last bulletin: May 20, 2003

Analysis

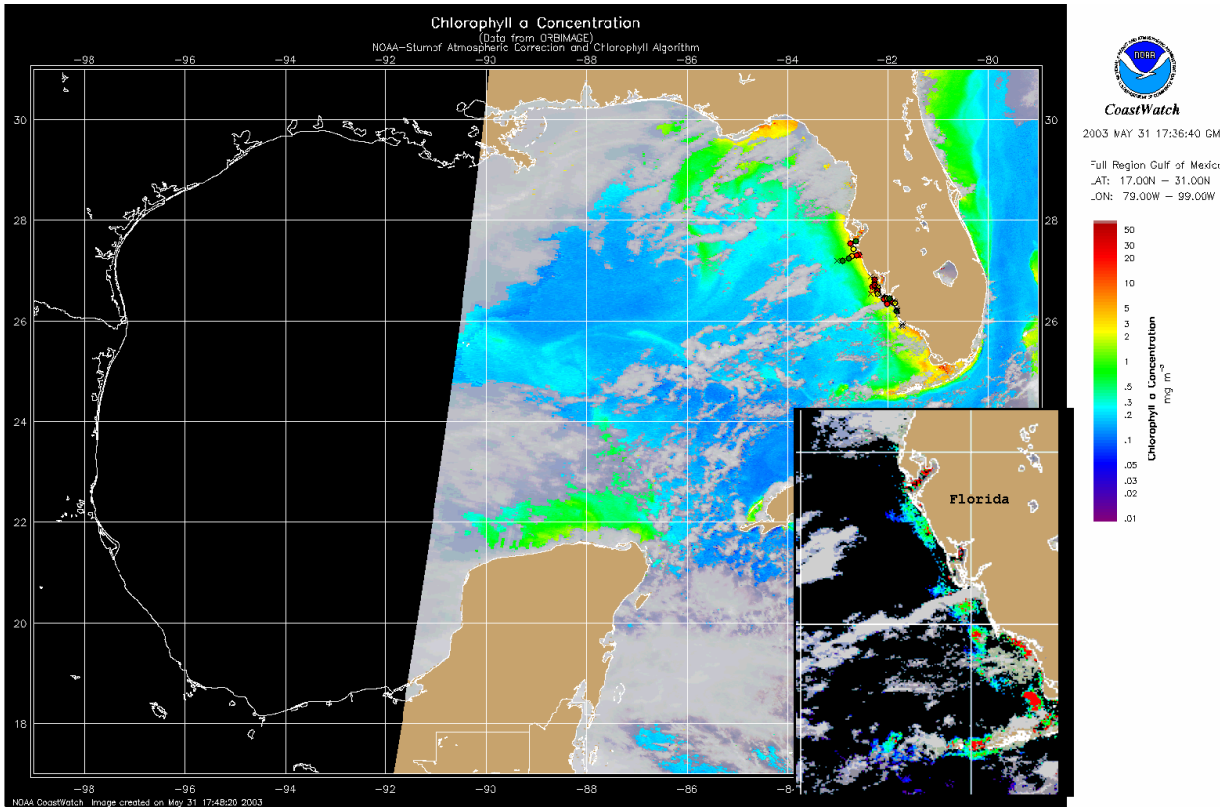
SW Florida:

Chlorophyll imagery suggests that the K. brevis bloom at Sarasota has extended southward to Venice. Persistent northerly winds since May 25 are responsible for soutward transport of the bloom. Chlorophyll concentrations remain above 3 ug/L in the area. The state reports higher than normal cell counts in Manatee and Sarasota counties.

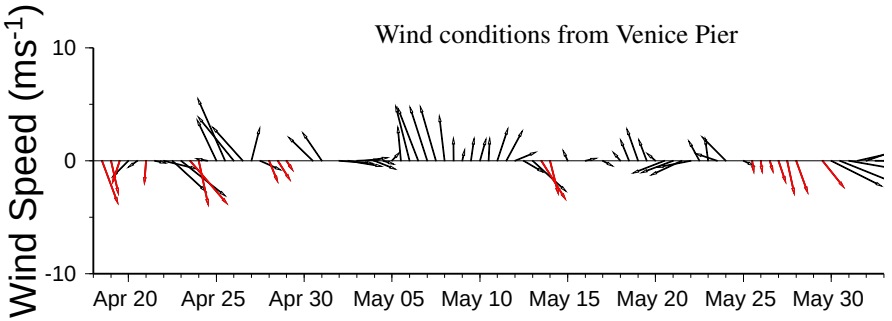
An offshore flag, which could contain K. brevis, is observed off Sanibel and extends offshore from 92d23'W 26d30'N to 82d4'W 26d8'N. Although onshore cell counts indicate that K. brevis is not present, this area should be monitored as predicted southerly winds could cause northward transport towards Sanibel.

An offshore flag is also observed 10-20 km west of Cape Romano and should be monitored as it may contain K. brevis cells.

-Tomlinson



Chlorophyll concentration (above) and possible HAB areas shown in red (inset). Cell concentration sampling data from May 28, 2003 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red circles (low), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on NOAA buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast.

Southwesterly winds are expected to turn southerly by this evening. Southerly winds are predicted to continue through Tuesday night and turn southeasterly by Wednesday.
